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The Ten-Billion-Dollar Idea.

In his annual report on pensions, Commissioner WARE does something which we do not remember that any of his predecessors has done. He separates the civil war pensions from other pensions in stating the aggregate paid on this account up to date. Thus the pension cost of the war for the Union appears clearly as a distinct item. It is this: \$2,878,240,400.

Ten years ago, in the spring of 1893, THE SUN computed at \$1,431,198,500 the civil war pension expenditure up to that time. The estimate is now shown to the way of understatement rather than overstatement.

Since then the enormous total has of \$140,000,000 or thereabouts for ten years would produce this result. Another year's appropriations will

carry the total beyond the three-billiondollar mark

Now let us make one simple and striking comparison:

The first cost of waging the war for the preservation of the Union, counting only the current expenses and excluding bounties other than Federal, private contributions, war claims of various sorts and the interest on the war debt, was \$3,144,975,087, according to our arithmetic.

This next session's pension bill and that of the year succeeding are all that is necessary to make the pension account since the war equal the stupendous total of the original war expenditure.

It was a ten-billion-dollar war; roughly stated, it has cost three billions for fighting expenses, three billions for debt interest, three billions for pensions, and perhaps a billion more in other forms.

Ten billions for an idea, but the idea was worth all it cost.

A Policy and the Text of a Rule.

The various explanations of the President's policy with regard to gifts are confusing and in some cases contradictory as they appear in different newspaper despatches. They are all unofficial. They are all unnecessary. The policy was defined with perfect clearness in the letter from Private Secretary LOEB which followed the flag on its return to Miss MARIE COSTEAU in Boston:

"I beg to state that while the President greatly appreciates your courtesy in sending him the enclosure which you forwarded, he has felt obliged to adopt a rule which precludes him from accept-

"From any one." There is no ambiguity here. There is no discrimination between strangers and personal friends, individuals and corporations, horse breeders, saddlemakers and steam railway companies.

This is the official version of the President's new rule of personal conduct, and it is the only official version.

The Unpublished Cuban Accounts.

It is now sixteen months since the United States withdrew from the island of Cuba and terminated its trusteeship of that country. Yet no officially certified | statement has been made public so far regarding its disposal of the funds received during the period of intervention. The only figures already submitted to the public or to the Cuban Government are seemingly so inextricably confused and inconsistent as to make them practically | Empire was yet to come.

From inquiries which we have made, it is evident that the responsibility for this unwarranted and unbusinesslike delay rests with Congress. The War Department and the Insular Division are apparently blameless in the matter. That appears in the following record of the steps taken:

Under date of Dec. 13, 1902, the Secretary of War mailed to the President of the United States Senate a letter and four separate packages containing detailed statements of receipts and expenditures in Cuba. These formed the final official report of our administration of Cuban finances.

On Jan. 17 and Jan. 19, 1903, the Secretary of War wrote to the chairman of the Committee on Relations with Cuba urging the printing of the Cuban accounts. He urged the desirability of this for the reason that the Director of the Census desired the use of the fireproof room in the Census Building where the original papers were stored, and also the additional reason that, inasmuch as the War Department had no suitably protected place for their storage, it was most desirable that they be put into printed form and distributed. This would form a struction of the original vouchers and receipts, against any charges or criticism which might arise. Mr. Roor also stated that these documents formed a complete record of our stewardship in Cuba, and that upon them is based the official accounting of the military government to its successor.

The Congressional Record of Feb. 18, 1903, shows a Senate resolution providing for the printing of 2,000 copies of these reports. The resolution was sent to the House, where it was referred to the Committee on Printing.

On Feb. 27, the Secretary of War ad-

ment No. 419, Fifty-seventh Congress, first session, publishes this letter. The persistent filibustering of the closing days of the session resulted in inaction upon the matter of the Cuban accounts. The Congressional Record of March 11 shows a Senate resolution by which it was unanimously agreed that the manuscript copies of Cuban receipts and expenditures be returned to the War Department. There they now are, carefully filed and quietly reposing in the archives of the Insular Department. They are available for any one who has the time and the patience to support his desire to

review them. We learn that it is the intention of the Department again to transmit them to longress, at the coming session, and once more to urge their publication. As this can only be regarded as an eminently praiseworthy ambition, we give it our cordial support and approval, and add to that our commendation of the Department for its earlier efforts to give publicity to these important documents. It is a matter which, for our national honor, calls for prompt attention.

Mr. Hoar on Railroad Freights.

Speaking at a Republican meeting in Salem last week Senator HOAR was bold enough to intimate that even railroads have some rights which the Government ought to respect, and that they should be allowed, in the main, to manage their business. "There is a general feeling," have been pretty nearly accurate. If he said, "that if Boston is to increase or in error either way, it was wrong in even retain its importance in our foreign commerce there must be some revision of the Interstate Commerce act." And not a revision for the sake of enlarging about doubled. An annual expenditure | the powers of the Interstate Commerce Commissioners, much and often as they have pleaded for them:

" I believe that Congress and the general public are coming to the opinion that to require freights either on sea or on land, to be scaled in accordance with distance is impracticable and unscientific, and that, in general, there should be no interference with the right of every carrier, by land or water, to make his own contracts without being subjected to any other authority, save only that the owners of great public ways, whom the public has intrusted with corporate powers and the right of eminent domain, shall not be controlled by individuals, so as to give themselves a separate, personal and independent advantage over the rest of the public or over other stockholders in the same

"One manufacturer in Boston or Worcester ought not to be allowed, by reason of his ownership in a railroad, to get an advantage by which he shall drive his manufacturing competitors out of business. When that is secure there is not much left for the Government to do in the way of interference with contracts. Railroad freights may safely be left, in general, to the discretion and the interest of the railroad management. I think the experience of the past few years is bringing the country to the conclusion that in general such things are best left to the operation of the laws of

After sixteen years of the Interstate Commerce act such is the opinion of this veteran Republican leader. Such. he believes, is coming to be the general opinion. And why not? Laws for the regulation of railroads can be made, revised and unmade; but the laws of trade stand unrepealable.

The Battle of Armageddon.

An article in the Westminster Review for August is remarkable because of its theme and the view it presents, and also because of its appearance in that libpaper is by ANDREW ALLAN and it consists of a novel interpretation of the

prophecies in the Book of Revelation. The beast with seven heads and ten horns in the Apocalyptic vision is usually interpreted as a type of the Roman Empire and, by Protestant writers, of the spiritual Rome, or the Roman Catholic Church. Mr. ALLAN rejects both of these interpretations in favor of "a wider and non-ecclesiastical interpretation of the vision." We shall not undertake to follow all the processes and details of his prophetic interpretation, but will merely

give the general results. The seven heads of the beast he takes to represent the warlike empires-Egypt, Assyria, Persia, Phoenicia or Carthage, Greece, Rome and the Moslem. Five of these had already fallen when the Apocalypse was written. Rome was in the zenith of its power and the Mohammedan

The Prophet DANIEL, in a somewhat similar vision, saw a beast with ten horns, but, apparently, only one head. This beast also has been identified by commentators as prefiguring Rome, and the ten kingdoms which took the place of the Roman Empire. These kingdoms at the present day, Mr. ALLAN thinks, are represented by the European kingdoms of Spain, Portugal, France, Belgium and Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden,

Germany, Austria, Italy, and Russia. DANIEL also saw "a little horn before whom three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots." This little tined to be disappointed, for both in the edly Britain," and the reference to umn of black, not white smoke that rose the plucking up he interprets to have thick from the pipe rising above the been to "the overthrow of the naval near end of the Sistine Chapel. Inside power of Holland, France and Spain," by the sealed doors of the Vatican the day for the three subdued on the sea are still RAMPOLLA 29, SARTO 21, GOTTI 9, OREGpowerful on land; and the seven he enu- LIA, DI PIETRO and CAPECELATRO, 1 each. merates as Russia, Italy, Spain, France, Evidently the choice of the Sacred Col-Germany, Austra and Holland, with Brit- lege would lie between RAMPOLLA and ain as "the eighth horn or member of SARTO. Each of them voted for the

the European military concert." In the Apocalyptic vision another safeguard, in the event of possible de- horns, like a lamb, but speaking like a petitor. According to the authority on or personification of trade, as the first and is not and yet is," Britain, the per- expressed the conviction that the extraoring practically invented it and carried it tributed as much as anything else to of in the days of the Phoenicians," has throne of PETER. dressed a letter to Speaker HENDERSON, yet to meet her doom. "It was alive in

concurrence of the House. House Docu- but Great Britain, the beast of trade, remains

Another vision in Revelation, of most a perfect synonym for commerce." The name written on her forehead: Mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth," he finds to be applicable precisely to London, the modern Babylon,

the chief seat of the trade of the world. The Battle of Armageddon of the Revelation, the last great battle, is to be brought about, according to Mr. ALLAN'S prophetical interpretation, by the war terrible disaster. Great Britain will be divided into three parts—that is to say, probably Canada, South Africa and Australia will become independent countries." The "earthquake" of the Apocalypse he interprets to denote "the great social and political revolution which must necessarily be brought about by such a government will be left in Europe.

After the Battle of Armageddon, however, Mr. ALLAN sees only the prospect of a veritable Golden Age. The "millennium of peace" will be ushered in. As we are told in figurative language, the beast and the false prophet will both be cast alive into the lake of fire." It will some form of socialism or communism intil now."

Such is the unravelling of the mystery Scriptural commentators have puzzled themselves for many centuries, that Mr. ANDREW ALLAN confidently presents as at last a complete and final solution in the pages of the unsentimental and unbelieving Westminster Review. He offers it. too, at a time when dangerous European trouble is feared by the timid because of signs of storm in the Balkans. Nor can it be doubted that Mr. ANDREW ALLAN sees as far into the mystery of the future as it is possible for man to extend his vision. Unfortunately, that sure foresight is not one of the gifts of the gods to mortal man.

What is the Truth About the Recent

In former days the incidents attending the secret election of a Pope were discoverable only by the explorer of historical materials which might be centuries old. To-day the facts are more quickly and easily ascertainable. The London Tablet, which, it will be remembered, was the organ of the late Cardinal VAUGHAN, published some time ago a detailed account of what took place in the recent Conclave. The account is said to be based on the authority of a Cardinal of the Curia, or Papal Court. and it bears all the marks of authen-

It was foretold by the press that the members of the Sacred College would eral and "free-thinking" magazine. The be at the outset very much divided with reference to the choice of a successor to LEO XIII., but that Cardinal RAM-POLLA and Cardinal GOTTI would be the favorite candidates. The outcome of the first scrutiny, which took place on the morning of Saturday, Aug. 1, justified the prediction, for, while no fewer than fourteen Cardinals received one or more votes, RAMPOLLA headed the list with 24, while 17 were cast for GOTTI. Even on this first ballot Cardinal SARTO received 5 votes, and it is an interesting rircumstance that he and RAMPOLLA voted for one another from the beginning to the end. We are told that, among those who supported RAMPOLLA were all the French and Spanish Cardinals, together with several Cardinals of the Curia, who were alive to the extent to which the policy of the Vatican had for many years been moulded by the Papal Secretary of State. In the scrutiny of Saturday evening, only seven Cardinals received votes. The ballots cast for RAMPOLLA were now increased by 5. so that he had 29; Gorri lost one, securing but 16; while, on the other hand the ballots cast for SARTO rose to 10. Cardinal the horns are identified by them with OREGLIA, the Camerlengo, who had obtained 2 votes in the morning, got none in the evening. SERAFINO VANNUTELLI, also, who was at one time supposed to be a Papal possibility, dropped from 4 votes to 1 vote.

On Sunday a rumor spread throughout the city that the election would take place that day, but the crowd that assembled in the piazza was deshorn Mr. ALLAN identifies as "undoubt- morning and in the evening it was a colwhich Britain gained the supremacy of had been an eventful one. The position the seas. Seven warlike horns are left, at the end of the morning scrutiny was: other, as we have said, and each now earnestly sought to persuade his rebeast came up out of the earth with two spective supporters to vote for his comdragon. This beast Mr. ALLAN, by "a which the Tablet relies, the anguish of very little ingenuity," identifies with Cardinal SARTO was intense when he Great Britain, and he makes it a symbol recognized on Sunday morning that the voting was steadily bearing him into the was of war. The two horns, in his view, shadow of the Tiara. With tears in "may be appropriately named Buy and his eyes he implored his fellow Car-Sell." All of the seven empires typified | dinals not to lay upon him a burden in the Apocalyptic vision "took the sword | for which he felt himself unfitted. and they have all perished by the sword." We are told that Cardinal SATOLLI, of controlling trusts, the first fight is the But Great Britain, "the beast which was speaking to the Tablet's correspondent, sonification of international trade, "hav- dinary humility thus exhibited conto a degree of perfection never dreamed raise the Patriarch of Venice to the

the action of the Senate, and urging the almost extinct under the Roman Empire," ment in the first Conclave of the twen-

tieth century. In the interval that had be injured, too. A tariff not for protecelapsed since the death of LEO XIII. nothing definite had been heard concernwoman sitting on a scarlet-colored ing the "veto" by means of which for beast, full of names of blasphemy, having centuries France, Spain and Austria had seven heads and ten horns, he also identi- been permitted to exclude from the fies as typical of trade sitting on the back | Papacy any one Cardinal whose election of war, that is, "Great Britain sitting on the vetoing power might deem detrithe back of Europe." The woman in the mental to its interests. There is no vision is described as meretricious, "al- doubt that in 1846 Austria sent a veto against the election of Cardinal MASTAI-FERRETTY, which, however, arrived too late to be effective. It has been reported but denied that in 1878 a similar abortive effort was made by Austria to shut out Cardinal PECCI from the Papal throne. Since the occupation of Rome by the Italian monarchy, so profound a change had taken place in the position of the Papacy and in the attitude of the privileged Powers, that the exercise of a veto of commercial competition now proceed- had come to be regarded as an anachrong. The immediate result of it will be nism and an impertinence. Especially would the interposition of a veto appear a tyrannous interference with the liberty of the Conclave in the case of Austria. allied as she now is with a Protestant Power, Germany, and with an anti-Papal Power, Italy. Nevertheless, it was from Austria that the unexpected veto fell.

Before the fourth scrutiny took place war," for he is doubtful if "any form of on Sunday evening, an Austrian Cardinal arose, and announced that the Hapsburg Emperor forbade the election of Cardinal RAMPOLLA. The Tablet's informant says that the message provoked severe animadversion on the part of many members of the Conclave: that Cardinals OREGUA and FERRATA solemnly protested against a recognition of the veto; be a millennium "from which the chance | and that Cardinal RAMPOLLA himself of money-making is eliminated," in declared that, while for him nothing which "rights of private property will be more welcome could have happened, he almost if not entirely abolished, and was grieved that such a wound had been inflicted on the liberty of the Catholic will become universally prevalent;" but Church. That the words of the Camerbefore it comes there will be "a time of lengo and of the ex-Secretary of State suffering and tribulation such as never | met with the approval of their colleagues was from the beginning of the world is evident from the outcome of the fourth scrutiny. RAMPOLLA received 30 votes, or one more than he had hitherto obof the Apocalyptic vision, over which tained, and SARTO 24, the rest being divided between GOTTI, OREGLIA, DI PIE-TRO and CAPECELATRO.

> The increased vote given to RAMPOLLA was regarded as a formal repudiation of the veto, and the deduction was drawn that the privilege has probably been exercised for the last time. Cardinal RAM-POLLA now renewed his entreaties that his supporters should transfer their votes to Cardinal SARTO, and he was undoubtedly aided by their tacit recognition of the fact that his own election would estrange the strongest of the Catholic Powers, and thus might seriously prejudice the interests of the Vatican. Nevertheless, at the fifth scrutiny, which took place on Monday morning, although the Patriarch of Venice now led with 27 votes. Cardinal RAMPOLLA retained 24, the rest being scattered. On Monday evening seven other supporters of RAM-POLLA transferred their votes to Cardinal SARTO, who gained also one of the scattered votes, the result being that SARTO had 35, RAMPOLLA, 16, while 10 votes were divided between GOTTI, OREGLIA and

> CAPECELATRO. It appears that on Tuesday morning the Fathers assembled half an hour earlier than usual in the Sistine Chapel, and that the outcome of the seventh scrutiny was the election of Cardinal Sarto by 50 votes, ten ballots still bearing the name of Cardinal RAMPOLLA, and 2 being cast in favor of Cardinal GOTTI. According to the Tablet's informant, the agitation of the Pontiff-elect was extreme when the result of the last ballotting was published. His voice trembled, as, in reply to the question put by Cardinal OREGLIA, he uttered the conventional word "accepto.

Yet, when he afterward appeared at the inside window of the loggia, looking down into the contral nave of St. Peter's, it was in a strong, clear, barytone voice that PIUS X. gave his first Apostolic blessing to the kneeling multitude.

Mr. Carnegie's Monuments.

The Brooklyn Public Library's estimate of its expenses for 1904, as submitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, includes a request for \$39,750 for five Carnegie libraries which should be open to the public by Aug. 1 of next year

Two of the libraries, named Bedford and Williamsburg, will take the places of libraries already established. The others, known as Pacific, Greenpoint and DeKalb, are entirely new, and will have to be stocked with books. The officers of the Brooklyn Public Library remind the Board of Estimate that Mr. CARNEGIE'S contract with the city calls for an annual appropriation of city money of not less than 10 per cent. of the cost of the libraries. This is for maintenance.

Because the libraries will not be open more than five months in 1904, only five-twelfths of the annual maintenance cost will be necessary next year. Of this money, \$15,000 is to be spent for books for the three brand-new libraries and \$12,000 for salaries for the five libraries. It costs a good deal to care for books for five months.

Mr. Carnegie's Brooklyn monuments will cost the taxpayers only a little next year, but the price will grow higher annually.

Bryanite to the Core.

Mr. BRYAN made no mistake and small concession when he forgave and accepted the Hon. JOHN H. CLARKE, the sometime Gold Democrat who is Tom Johnson's candidate for Mr. HANNA's seat in the United States Senate. Mr. CLARKE's "opening" speech at Akron shows that he is a hopeless Bourbon, the advocate of impossible and crazy policies.

Mr. CLARKE proposes to give the Philippines "immediate independence." There may be a majority for that in the insane asylums and the idiot asylums. He says that "as to remedies in the way taking of the tariff from all articles the manufacture or sale of which is controlled by a monopoly." There is no such monopoly. Mr. Clarke's proposal. if it means anything concrete enough to embody in law, means that the tariff It was during Sunday afternoon that a shall be altered for the purpose of injurcalling his attention to the matter and to the time of the Phonicians, was dead or dramatic incident caused much excited ing big manufacturing corporations. Incidentally, small manufacturers would

tion, not for revenue, but to bust trusts.

An economic curiosity. The "second fight" against the trusts is the limiting of the capitalization of all corporations engaged in interstate commerce strictly to the value of the property invested." That is, the Federal Government is to be grand regulator of such corporations and appraiser of values, and the principle of caveat emptor is to be abrogated in the case of buyers of the stocks and bonds of corporations engaged in interstate commerce. Here Mr. CLARKE is at one with that eccentric Republican statesman, Governor LA FOLLETTE of Wisconsin. It used to be the rudimentary Democratic principle that the power of the Federal Government should be limited, not increased. Mr. CLARKE belongs to another school, the Populistic-Socialistic.

Mr. CLARKE is sufficiently impractical and radical to deserve Mr. BRYAN'S cooperation.

Leguminaria.

The ardor and enthusiasm born of vegetable diet are wonderful. Judge EDWARD WALLACE CONABLE, who founded a vegetarian colony in Roswell, Col., a few years ago, has bought 8,000 acres of land near Rogers, Ark., and is going to establish there a new paradise of NEBUCHADNEZZAR. Judge Con-ABLE is a "Pathfinder." His sect, numbering some 2,000 persons, if he counts straight, believes that "Gop is the universal life force that permeates every living thing" and that "it is possible for man so to perfect himself physically as to come into absolute harmony with the soul and live eternally in the flesh." The Pathfinders are vegetarians, pantheists and perfectionists. They expect to stay in Rogers, Ark., till the last trumpet.

In Rogers there will be no butchers and no doctors. If you are ill in Rogers, you will fast till you get well. Animals, fowls, fish will positively not be admitted. The man who swears or chews or eats a cooked breakfast will be driven out of paradise. Judge CONABLE eats no breakfast.

The founder reports "unusual activity in the sale of his blocks of stock." Thus financial perfection may accompany physical perfection. But what is this rule forbidding the lovers of the plants in the Arkansaw paradise?

"The man who looks upon a woman and loves her at sight is doomed to everlasting disgrace."

And these misguided grass-eaters expect to stay in Rogers until GABRIEL blows his horn! Five minutes there will be too much.

A queer illustration of the advantages of thorough knowledge of shorthand was that afforded the other day in Cincinnati by BENN PITMAN, an author of shorthand text books and a brother of the late Sir ISAAC PITMAN, who was familiarly called the "Father of Phonography."

A woman claiming to have suffered inhuman treatment at the hands of her husband fled to Mr. PITMAN's house for protection. The husband followed her, and in his wrath proceeded to assail his spouse with a torrent of unseemly epithets quite unknown to the stenographer's dictionary.

But the performer in pothooks was equal to the occasion. Drawing a notebook from his pocket as unconcernedly as if he were about to record a speech of President Roose-VELT or of Bishop POTTER, Mr. PITMAN made, as they say, a crayon portrait of the language of the irate pursuer.

A day or two afterward the author of his unique record produce read his notes to the Judge in the presence of the prisoner. At this the latter protested wildly, and swore the whole thing was false. Whereupon Mr. PITMAN replied: "I cannot be mistaken. The re-

port was taken verbatim." We hope this little incident will not inspire women generally to study shorthand with the idea of "getting square" with their husbands, present or future. Stenography is useful, but in the hands of one who is not an expert it may "lie like a trooper." It is possible for one misplaced stroke of the stenographer's pencil in a case similar to that described in Cincinnati to consign an innocent, if ill-tempered, husband to the life of a grass widower.

Some burglars who made a call in Bloomfield, N. J., the other night are bringing disgrace upon their profession and forgetting its best traditions. In the course of their professional visit they stooped to a game of ping-pong. Now, conservative burglars may have a few hands at poker in the dining room of their host if the swag has been arranged in an orderly manner, there is plenty of time and the wine or whiskey is commendable: but ping-pong savors of frivolity. Burglars that ping-pong have no respect for the etiquette of their profession and will never come to a good end

Dissatisfied With Uncle Sam's Weather Ser-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: It would be nteresting if some authority like THE SUN would supplement the daily predictions of the Weather Sureau with "probabilities" of its own, based on the views of some ordinary, workaday sage, whom there are many in the community, if not on

This week the official talk has all been "rain," but the beachcombers and other such intimates of God's creation have been, I think, inclined to pronounce the "storm" a "dry northeaster. presently a change of wind to south and clearing weather.

The bureau is useful as a gatherer, recorder and disseminator of weather news from the country at large, and its deductions form a basis for ex on, but for the immediate local conditions that are of so much concern to us give me the guess of a natural weather reader every time. J. W. F.

The Thirteens in the Quarter.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str. I wish. through the medium of your paper, to extend my thanks to "D. M." for enlightening manking as to the malevolent properties of the quarte dollar. I have always been considered unlucky quarter but never until I read this morning's Sun did guess the true cause. My friends used to say it was because I didn't like work, but of course I knew that wasn't it. I have taken every opportunity to-day to rid myself of these argentiferous Jonahs, and upon examining my pocacion, and upon examining my pocacion, in have succeeded fairly well. However, I have have succeeded fairly well. However, I have me. I should be glad to insure myself against further calamity by sinking the accuracd cream sodas, assorted flavors, to be divided equally between us. LONG ISLAND CITY, Sept. 11.

A Worthy Woman's Enterprise TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I note that Mrs. Huldan Berry is owner of a small fruit farm

in Nodaway county, northwest Missouri. What's in a name? BROOKLAN, Sept. 12.

Matrimonial Value of Cooks. an article by Mrs. Russell Suge in the Cooks are difficult to keep, as they are more in demand in marriage. Men like to marry cooks. They feel that the food question is settled then.

A NEW PARTY PROPOSED.

Principles on Which the Ballot Reform Party Would Appeal to the Country. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your astructive editorial of Aug. 31, giving a history of the naturalization laws, and of the progress and disintegration of the Native American party in the middle of the last century, I have read with great interest; as I have also read the letters you have pub lished on the subject of the naturalization

of ignorant immigrants and its danger to the country The closing paragraph of your article, wherein you state that "at the next Presi-dential election both parties will seek the foreign vote," is a confirmation of the argument of the opponents of indiscriminate naturalization—evidence of its corrupting influence and evidence of the power now possessed by the votes so created. That statement alone should be enough to place before the country in demanding the repeal

of the naturalization laws. Two of your correspondents dwell upon alleged disturbance of the labor of the country by the immense immigration, and propose a prohibitive law, to be effective for a labor with the shovel, the hod and the pick. and in the mines is now chiefly, if not wholly, performed by the immigrants, the increase will affect adversely only themselves, for the will affect adversely only themselves, for the time has gone by when the sons of our farmers or mechanics perform that kind of labor.

One of your correspondents says: "Speak to any thoughtful man or woman you meet and without exception you will find hearts grieved over this peril to our national life." If there is any argument against the proposition that immigrants do not need the power of the ballot; that its attainment was not the object of their coming here; that our laws, and the spirit of our people protect their persons and their property, which they have the same rights and opportunities to obtain as the native citizens, I should like to see it advanced.

obtain as the native citizens, I should like to see it advanced.
You speak of a new party, ungenerously, as a "new Know-Nothing party." A party based on a repeal of the naturalization laws can have no occasion for secrecy, as had the party of fifty years ago. It will, if the movement assumes the proportions of a party, fight its battles in the open—labor solely to elevate the estimation in which the ballot should be held, and demonstrate the degradation of the ballot by its indiscriminate bestowal upon the semi-barbarous immigrant. It should not, and doubtless would not appeal to religious prejudices, as did the Native American party, and it would be useless if it did, for the reason, as has been lucidly demonstrated in the columns of The Sun for years past, that religious prejudices, religious convictions, have lost their energy, their virulence, and have been superseded by a fatal apathy.

It is probable that the most natural and strenuous opponents of a new movement on the lines laid down in this letter will be the active workers and therefore office-seeking members of the Democratic party. This subject has been brought to the attention of several Democrats who are not office seekers, but are conscientious and patriotic voters, and, without exception, they expressed their approval of it, and their pleasure to know that a movement is being made to put a stop to indiscriminate naturalization. To put a severe test to those individual Democrats, it was asked them if they knew

to put a stop to indiscriminate naturalization.

To put a severe test to those individual Democrats, it was asked them if they knew that all immigrants from monarchical countries understood that they were coming to a democratic country as distinguished from a monarchical, and that, as a matter of course, they must be Democratis here, and, equally as a matter of course, affiliate with the party known by that name. They all replied that they believed that that was the case, but that they did not desire the triumph of their party if it depended on ignorant naturalized voters. Therefore a movement for rescuing the ballot from further degradation will probably be as warmly welcomed and supported by the conscientious and patriotic members of the Democratic party as by others.

members of the Democratic party as by others.

Many manifestly needed reforms are not inaugurated because the evils to be reformed are so firmly intrenched and sustained by established interests of great potentiality, that to assail them seems a hopeless undertaking; therefore they continue to live. The evil of conferring citizenship on ignorant immigrants is clearly seen by intelligent people; yet it is so intrenched, as making political raw material, and so sustained by political parties, that it has seemed a hopeless task to assail it. It is, as a matter of fact, intrenched solely in the apathy of the people—in their lack of a proper appreciation of the true character of the ballot, the fundamental principle of our government.

It may safely be predicted that the conferring of citizenship on profound ignorance is the introduction of a corrupting and disintegrating element that will, sooper or later, destroy our government. To arouse our people to the consideration of that prediction should be the aim of the new party. It would gratify the friends of the movement if hereafter, in case you have occasion to refer to it, you will not speak derisively of it as the new Know-Nothing" party, but by the name it chooses to go to the country on—the Suffrage or Ballot Reform Party.

Wants a Candidate Like Mr. Tracy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: rould be well for those interested to feel the pulse of the people before jumping at the conclusion that Mayor Low will be supported by all those who gave him their support at last election for Mayor.

When canvassing in 1901 promises nade, only to be broken after election. Was this honest? Those broken promises not be forgotten when the time shall come

to cast the ballot Every one remembers the vacillating policy of the first year of the present administration. The excise law remained unenforced, the gambling houses were allowed to run with little if any molestation, the houses of ill-repute were as many as under a Tammany administration, the police force without a backbone, was practically demoralized, and the cry that graft has been paid and still is paid has never been denied. The idea that Mayor Low must be renomi is all nonsense. What good his administra tion has done needs no vindication. The

evil it has done cannot be vindicated, neithe should it be perpetuated. Fusion, under the leadership of Mayor Low, can hope only for defeat. Under the leadership of a man resembling Benjamin F. Tracy, for example, no future event than

the election of such a man could be more certain. Let us have such a man.

The Hopeless Coadition of Liberia.

The Wife of a Liberian Missionary in the Independent.
If the population were homogeneous, or if it were possible to obtain any real concert of action among the people, more immediate hopes might be enter-tained for Liberia. But racial and caste distinctions are more numerous and mischlevous than in othe lands. The population is divided into three classes: negroes of native birth; negroes of foreign birth, usually American; and mulattoes. The natives r sent the arrogance of the "Americans," as the men born in the United States are called. The "Americans" despise the natives as a lower order of being Both native and foreign blacks, of pure or nearly pure blood, look down upon mulattoes as a race without standing either among Caucasianssor Afri The mulattoes return the feeling with bitter intensity, for they consider themselve

Industry, the hope of all lands and the on y sa vation to be looked to there, is practically no Istent in Liberia. Life is from hand to mouth. depends upon agriculture, carried on in most fitful manner, aithough fron is so plentiful that in some places it can be obtained by scratching the surface of the ground. Savage craftsmen make weapons and utensils that would do credit to the mechanics of civilization; but it does no good, contributes nothing whatever to the ruling caste, adds no in pulse to the progress of the people. It cannot do so while there are no roads, and while even the for-est trails can be closed at any time at the whim of some savage chief.

Primer of American History.

Cornwallis had just surrendered to Washington "But," asked his chraged countrymen, didn't you lick him instead?" And have Austin write a poem commemorating

the victory?" replied the General. "Not much!" Seeing he had chosen the lesser of two evilsthey forbore to press him further. Poor Richard had made a success of his Almanac

You see," explained Franklin, "I simply sai About this time, look out for fair or rainy Thereupon, the simple minded farmers hailed him as a prophet

Her Resson A man with a wife who was gifted with gab While he, very plainly was not. Concluded one day he would try to find out

Why in thunder she talked such a lot So he said very mildly: "Please excuse me, but why Do you tell me a thing o'er and o'er?"
"A word to the wise is sufficient," said she "Which is why I'm compelled to use more.

ARTILLERY AND TURRETS.

Interior of Suffren's Turret Uninjured in Recent French Test at Brest.

Paris Correspondence of the Courrier des Ktats-Unis.

Complete reports of the result of the experiment recently made upon the forward turret of the battleship Suffren are now to hand. The cable has already that the startling test was made for the purpose of discovering the effect of the shock from a heavy projectile upon the interior in stallations of the turret as well as upon the organs which connect it with the hull of the

essel.

In the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the case of the Suffren the pieces trained in the pieces traine In the case of the Suffren the pieces trained upon her were 305 millimetres and 274 millimetres calibre. The thickness of the armor of the turret protects it from perforation, but the effect of the shock upon its interior arrangements remained to be ascertained Would it put the thing out of order by damaging the mechanism of its rotation, weakening its connections with the hull, or ruining the pointing and charging contrivances? If so, the result would be to destroy the offensiva force of the ship, probably at the very beginning of a fight.

The forward turret of the Suffren cheese.

orce of the ship, probably at the very beginning of a fight.

The forward turret of the Suffren, chosen for the target, shelters two pieces of 305 millimetres, the heaviest calibre of the French Navy. It is protected by steel armor 20 centimetres in thickness. To save this armor from injury, it was covered on the starboard side by a steel plate destined to receive the shock. On top, for the purpose of facilitating the fire, a broad strip of sailcloth was placed and on each side of the turret par-éclats, or fenders, were set up to catch the flying fragments which might cause accidents. The entire crew of the Suffren remained on board. The Masséna, which carries two guns of 305 millimetres, fired at the turret with one of them. The normal weight of the charge of powder was reduced, in order to give to the shell at the instant it struck the turret of the Suffren a velocity equal to that which it would have with the hormal charge of the two evites the two course of the suffren a velocity equal to that which it would have with the normal charge of the two evites the suffren a velocity equal to that which it would have with the normal charge of the two evites the correct of the suffren a velocity equal to that which it would have with the normal charge of the two evits.

them. The normal weight of the charge of powder was reduced, in order to give to the shell at the instant it struck the turret of the shell at the instant it struck the turret of the shell at the instant it struck the turret of the shell at the instant it struck the turret of the Suffren a velocity equal to that which it would have with the normal charge, if the two ships were at the average fighting distance.

The result of the experiment showed that after the shocks of two powerful projectiles, the turrets of French battleships can be worked easily and rapidly. Moreover, we may almost say that in future naval battles a projectile will never strike a turret at right angles to its axis, as was the case the other day off Brest.

The firing test which the Suffren stood was of the highest importance. A different result from the one obtained might have caused a complete revolution in the construction of battleships. If under the rigorous conditions in which the experiment was made the fire of the Masséna had put the inside machinery of the turret out of order turrets would be condemned, and have construction would have to be transformed. But, happily, no damage was done, and the people who watched with intense interest the result of this sensational experiment will be pleased to learn that the turrets of the battleships are excellent from every point of view.

Here are a few details obtained by the Main from high official authorities:

After the firing of a few blank cartridges, the first real shot was fired at 10:30 in the morning with a velocity at the striking point of 500 metres. The turret stood the test splendidly. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon there was no hesitation about bringing the velocity of the projectile up to 600 metres, and another shot was fired under these conditions. The shock produced no effect upon the turret, and all the machinery of the interior, including even the machinery of the interior, including even the machinery of the interior, including even the machinery of the interior, including

LIFEBOATS LAUNCHED BY TROL LEY.

Might Be Run Out Over Water Beyond the Surf Line. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your recent editorial on "Lifeboats and Turs

orings to mind the western coast of South America, where many towns are situated on of a harbor, and the long Pacific rollers daily

of a harbor, and the long Pacific rollers daily present nearly as much difficulty to launching a boat as is encountered during a storm on the Jersey coast.

The method used is as follows. The surf boats are built of the best oak with numerous and very strong ribs, and are very deep and pointed at both ends, like cances. At both ends are heavy pulley blocks, through which runs a two-inch hawser, the shore end of which is firmly anchored to a post, and the sea end to a group of piles beyond the line of the worst of the shore breakers. Then the boat is dragged foot by foot into water deep enough to float her. Owing to their peculiar construction and the skill of the natives, these boats are almost never capsized in water even moderately deep.

Following this idea, might not some such arrangement, more elaborate even, be possible on our Jersey coast?

Extrape of a powerful windless and wire

Following this idea, might not some standar arrangement, more elaborate even, be possible on our Jersey coast?

By use of a powerful windlass and wire cable, attached to a sufficiently strong tower, the boat might even be run, as on a trolley, to touch the water only when beyond the outermost and heaviest breakers.

GEORGE H. BRIDGMAN.

NEW YORK, Sept. 10.

Public Schools and Parochial Schools. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your editorial in to-day's paper entitled "Fact. Not Theory," treats t a subject dear to the hearts of all Americans. Catholic, Protestant and infidel, though they can never hope to agree upon it. No solution, except

Allow me to suggest a practical disposition of the question. It is one that has been in force for a great many years in the city of Philadelphia. Witness the moral training given to the orphan boys in Girard College in the heart of that city. It is a training which, it seems to me, is necessary in our public schools, and would be unobjectionable to any part of our citizens, of whatever religious belief and would enable the future voter to know the dif ference between right and wrong-to do right be

certain wrong would mean punishment. I believe that people of influence who have the good of the children at heart could profit by the example set by Stephen Girard and formulate a course of moral training in our public schools which would conflict with no dogma, yet convey the good that may be found in the more specific religious training.

While we cannot expect our mixed people to agree upon any code which would be religious in charac-ter, it is our duty to see that the children should not be denied, in the conflict of opinion, that train ing which is for their own good and for the best interests of the nation.

BROOKLYN, Sept. 9. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I was pleased to read your able editorial on "Fact, Not Theory Now, let me give my experience as to the product of parochial schools in contrast to our American public schools.

Having been born and brought up in this city. I had for my companions, when a boy, a number of boys who attended the parochial school, and more proficient swearers I never met. In fact, it was the most natural thing in the world for them to breathe out oaths and to trample under foot the Commandments they had been taught to obey If religion is to be taught to our boys and girls should be and can be inculcated, or in the Sunday school, where so many children are laying the foun dation of a pure and noble character. can people owe a great deal to THE SUN for its effi cient treatment of this delicate. JOHN FROSCHL

NEW YORK, Sept. 9. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Str: Allow me, 1 answer to your suggestion of obtaining statistics to show the comparative practical results of parochie and public school education, to state the limitatio of that method and the conditions to be fulfilled The comparison must be confined to Irish Cath lies in the parochial schools and in the public school

before it can give any satisfactory result. Practical conditions, racial ments and traditions, as well as various types mathetic influences, must all be taken into the a count as causes of differences in morals, character intellect and position.

The attendance on parochial schools is main! various elements of different races, of tempe of different industrial and social positions, si ome have been established here more recent than others. The parents of parochial scho children are nearly all in the same social sphand follow about the same lines of workcompare the parochial schools with the pull schools as a body, we will have on one side an a endance from one racial, social and industr sphere, and on the other an attendance composed of all rases and of all degrees of position. With this method, it would be extremely difficult to obtain facts and figures that should be ascribed in difforences of education and to nothing cise.

The Irish Catholies of both systems are the same people, inheriting the same Ideals of fidelity in marital relations. The graduates of one system are no more tempted by money or luxury than are the graduates of the other. Both bodies are no wequally removed from the extreme poverof that tempts to robbery and breeds brutality. One graduate has no more opportunity or family influence than has the other. If the product of one system is morally, or otherwise, inferior to the product of the other, we may blame the system that produces an inferior class, while using the same material.

Douglaston, L. I., Sept. 9 sphere, and on the other an attendance compos